

earth speaking in different languages, but all spoke the language of peace. I thought that the millenium of peace had come, such a thing as the world's war was impossible; but the day when the Christian heart shall rule the world and when peace shall reign over the land is not here, and unhappily is not in sight. Self-defense and preparation for it is as necessary now as ever before.

We must not mistake dishonor for peace, as we can not mistake oppression for peace. All governments love peace — peace with freedom, peace with honor. Without these all is slavery beside. Woodrow Wilson and the democratic party advocate an army big enough to make aggressors think the second time before they strike a blow. Democracy wants an army and a navy in keeping with the dignity, preservation, and worth of this great republic. Such preparedness and ability to defend ourselves, our cities from bombardment, and our soil from invasion, and to protect the rights of our citizens is the purpose of Woodrow Wilson.

I want a navy large enough that it will be impossible for a foreign shell to fall in a single American city. I want an army strong enough to make it impossible for an aggressor's foot to press American soil. We do not want a foot of anybody else's soil, and, by the eternal God, they shall not take a foot of ours. I do not fear militarism. It has never menaced a free people.

In this land of freedom the right to declare war rests with the people themselves. Those who must fight its battles, speaking through their duly accredited representatives in congress—the house and the senate—can alone declare war, and as the people can declare war so they can proclaim peace.

Democracy believes in preparedness without militarism. During this administration we have done more to build up an army and navy in three years than the republican party did in 40 years of its existence. More has been done to give the American people a navy and army in three months than Colonel Roosevelt and Mr. Taft did in eleven years.

The President challenged the seeming overwhelming opposition of congress and of his own party, and in the name of self-defense and "America first" he took his cause to the country, and in the great and unshackled court of public opinion summoned the American people to the rescue. Their response was immediate and overwhelming in his support. President Wilson acts, he does not rant; he builds, he does not bluster.

#### Lauds Wilson's Course

No President during the life of this republic has ever had to deal with so many delicate and dangerous problems as those which have confronted President Wilson during the last two years of his incumbency in office. With more than half of the world in arms in Europe, with Mexico in revolution at our border, these difficult and complicated international problems have confronted him almost daily, and he has handled them as becomes a patriot and a statesman.

When the Lusitania was sunk the militant voice of Theodore Roosevelt cried out for war, and if he had been President of the United States at that time, today 500,000 brave American sons would be contending around the fort of Verdun in this mighty maelstrom of blood — thousands would have been buried in the ditches. Our President, patriotic, far-sighted, the real statesman, handled this question with the greatest ability, and won for America its greatest diplomatic victory.

Some gentlemen in congress undertook to take out of the President's hands the right of handling our for-

eign situation. Congress met that quickly, decisively, and said that they stood, as every American should stand, back of the President of the United States. When the President sent his ultimatum to Germany he was criticised by two elements—one that he was seeking to force the country into war and the other was that he was too cowardly to engage in the conflict.

There are happily two kinds of courage; the courage of the man who is willing to undertake the danger himself and the courage of the man that sends others to the conflict. The courage of the man who wishes himself to enter the conflict may be rash, for he alone is to suffer, but the courage to take a nation into war, where millions of lives may be sacrificed, is another kind of courage. It is a courage that must be able to stand bitter abuse; a courage that moves slowly, acts coolly, and strikes no blow as long as diplomacy may be employed, honor of the country upheld, the flag respected, and lives of Americans protected.

Woodrow Wilson has both kinds of courage—the courage of conflict and the courage to act coolly and sensibly when he is dealing with the lives of others—the fate of a nation. It was no time for divided counsel. The interference of congress would have created chaos in this country, contempt for our honor and our country abroad, and would have destroyed the power of America to either maintain its honor or protect the rights of the neutrals of the world.

#### Tells of Mexican Policy

The Mexican situation was inherited by the democratic party from the administration of President Taft. It had refused recognition of Huerta, and the same policy was followed along these lines by President Wilson, because he believed with President Taft that assassinations should not be rewarded with the presidency of the republic of Mexico. The President has dealt with the Mexican situation, and his policy has been the same as that of Abraham Lincoln under like conditions more than half a century ago. Speaking through his great secretary of state, Mr. Lincoln said:

"For a few years past the condition of Mexico has been so unsettled as to raise the question on both sides of the Atlantic whether the time has not come when some foreign power ought, in the interest of society generally, to intervene—to establish a protectorate or some other form of government in that country and guarantee its continuance there. You will not fail to assure the government of Mexico that the President neither has, nor can ever have, any sympathy with such designs, in whatever quarter they may arise or whatever character they may take on. The President never for a moment doubts that the republican system is to pass safely through all ordeals and prove a permanent success in our own country, and so be recommended to adoption by all other nations. But he thinks also that the system everywhere has to make its way painfully through difficulties and embarrassments which result from the action of antagonistic elements which are a legacy of former times and very different institutions.

"The President is hopeful of the ultimate triumph of this system over all obstacles as well in regard to Mexico as in regard to every other American state; but he feels that those states are nevertheless justly entitled to a greater forbearance and more generous sympathies from the government and people of the United States than they are likely to receive in any other quarter. The President trusts that your mission, manifesting these sentiments, will reassure the government of Mexico of his best dis-

position to favor their commerce and their internal improvements. I find archives here full of complaints against the Mexican government for violation of contracts, and spoliation and cruelties practiced against American citizens. It is not the President's intention to send forward such claims at the present moment. He willingly defers the performance of a duty, which at any time would seem ungracious, until the incoming administration in Mexico shall have had time, if possible, to cement its authority.

#### Lincoln's Course Similar

When American soil was invaded the President quickly ordered the United States troops into Mexico upon their punitive expedition. They are there now, and I have no doubt will remain as long as there is a possibility of the capture and punishment of the murderers who invaded American soil or are needed for the protection of American lives along the border.

When the Republican platform at Chicago denounced the Mexican policy of Woodrow Wilson, it denounced at the same time the similar Mexican policy of Abraham Lincoln—the one they have heretofore called the "patron saint" of the republican party. When the Lincoln administration came into power, Mexico had been in turmoil for years. The government of Juarez was in power, but was unable to enforce order. Not only had American property been destroyed, but American lives had been lost, and a member of the American legation had been murdered.

It is a perfectly easy thing for the President of the United States to plunge his country into war if he is a politician before he is a patriot. He would seek his own re-election as he came upon horseback up the bloody highway of contending armies. The American people have never yet repudiated a war president and never will. We are naturally a red-blooded, fighting race.

Of course, our army could invade Mexico and march in triumph to its capital, but after the war was over other armies would march — an army of widows and orphans, an army of cripples and men broken in health, an army of pensioners and an army of tax collectors gathering up the earnings of the people to pay the great war debt. All America wants peace—peace with honor.

#### REPUBLICAN PARTY, SEEKING ISSUE, CONDEMNS ALL REFORM MEASURES ITS CONGRESSMEN AIDED

The republican party defeated by filibuster the shipping bill proposed by the democratic party, which, if it had been enacted, would have made impossible the more than 200 miles of railroad sidetracks crowded by the products of the American factory and the American farm by enabling us to get shipments abroad, and we would by this time have been enabled to have a merchant marine to take the products of the field and the factory, and the mines to the hungry markets of Europe.

They offer to the United States the often proposed and always defeated subsidy to the ship owners to be paid out of the treasury of the people of the United States. This time they call it by the name of subvention, but it means, of course, the taking of the people's money to enrich a few men.

They seem to be perfectly willing to take the public money and give it to other people to operate shipping abroad, but they are utterly unwilling that the government of the United States shall with the people's money purchase these ships and operate them if private capital is not willing to do so without subsidy, or, as they call it, subvention, from the

treasury, and whatever profit was made by the government's operation would go into the public treasury.

The republican platform proposes a subsidy to the ship owners, the profit going into their pockets. In other words, it is willing for the United States to pay for the loss, if there is any, in operating the ships when it is done by private capital, but unwilling for the government to render the service if private capital will not undertake it.

The republican party, seeking some issue, just any issue upon which to hang the slightest hope of returning to power, is driven to the necessity of denouncing in its own platform, adopted at Chicago, the vote of a majority of its own members in the house and senate upon practically all of the reform measures that have been written into law by the democratic party.

#### Discusses Rural Credits

They declare we "favor an effective system of rural credits as opposed to the ineffective law proposed by the recent democratic administration." By this declaration they charge practically every republican in the senate and almost every republican in the house with having voted for an ineffective rural credit law, which has passed both the senate and house. In the senate the vote was 57 to 5, in the house 295 to 10. I suppose this denunciation of their fellow republicans was caused by the fact that of the five republicans in the senate who voted against the rural credits bill, which passed that body, Senators Lodge, Oliver and Wadsworth were members of the subcommittee that prepared the republican platform, and they were anxious to vindicate their own vote at the cost of denouncing their republican colleagues.

The republican platform declares for "a continuous policy of national defense," but there have only been two propositions made in our history for a "continuous policy." One was made by the General Board of the navy in 1903, urging upon the republican administration then in power the construction of two battleships a year. That "continuous" program was hidden in the archives and never saw light until the present secretary of the navy published it.

The only other "continuous policy" proposed is the one advocated by the President of the United States in his address to congress last December, in which he urged the adoption by this congress of a five-year building program which, if adopted would meet the demand of the "continuous policy" which the belated republican promise now offers.

But what happened when this

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